

B I O G R A P H Y

★ UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ★
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND ♦ 58TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING

COLONEL MICHAEL F. PLANERT

Colonel Planert is commander, 58th Special Operations Wing, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. The wing's mission is to train mission-ready special operations and combat rescue aircrews for the Air Force. Colonel Planert leads one of Air Education and Training Command's most dynamic training organizations. The wing is comprised of seven squadrons under the operations and logistics groups, providing and supporting flight instruction in the MC-130H, MC-130P, UH-1N, HH-60G, TH-53A, and MH-53J aircraft. The 58th maintains more than 30 assigned aircraft to train more than 1,500 students annually. Wing aircrews and aircraft also participate in worldwide contingency and humanitarian missions, as well as local and regional rescue efforts. Since 1976, the 58th Special Operations Wing has accomplished more than 220 saves.

After receiving his commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1976, Colonel Planert entered active duty in January 1977. During his Air Force career, he has commanded a flying training squadron and a special operations group. In addition, he has served as an instructor pilot, flight examiner and aircraft commander in the HH-53C and MH-53J aircraft. He has also held various positions at the wing, Major Command, Unified Command, and Air Staff levels. Colonel Planert is a command pilot with more than 2,500 flight hours in a variety of fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

EDUCATION:

1976	Bachelor of science degree in aeronautical science, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach FL
1980	Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
1984	Masters degree in management, Webster University, St. Louis, Mo.
1985	Air Command and Staff College, correspondence
1986	Maintenance Officer's Course, Chanute Air Force Base, Ill.
1994	Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. January 1977 - October 1977, pilot training, distinguished graduate, Fort Rucker, Ala.
2. October 1977 - June 1980, rescue helicopter co-pilot and aircraft commander, 67th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Royal Air Force Woodbridge, United Kingdom
3. June 1980 - July 1983, instructor pilot and flight examiner, 1550th Aircrew Training and Test Wing, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.
4. July 1983 - November 1986, operational programming officer, Plans Directorate, Headquarters Military Airlift Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.
5. November 1986 - October 1987, volant wrench officer, chief of quality assurance and HH-53C aircraft commander, 41st Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, McClellan Air Force Base, Calif.
6. October 1987 - July 1991, chief, wing current operations division and HH-53 instructor pilot, 542nd Crew Training Wing, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

7. July 1991 - July 1993, commander, 551st Flying Training Squadron, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.
8. August 1993 - June 1994, Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
9. June 1994 - May 1996, deputy director of operations, Special Operations Command Europe, Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany
10. May 1996 - May 1998, commander, 352nd Special Operations Group, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, United Kingdom
11. May 1998 - July 1999, chief, Program Integration Division, Headquarters United States Air Force, Directorate of Programs, Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Programs, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
12. July 1999 - present, commander, 58th Special Operations Wing, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command pilot
 Flight hours: 2,500 hours
 Aircraft flown: MH-53, HH-53C, UH-1H, UH-1N, HH-3E, MH-60, MC-130H, and MC-130P

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit
 Defense Meritorious Service Medal
 Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
 Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster
 Joint Service Achievement Medal
 NATO Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant	April 1976
First Lieutenant	October 1978
Captain	October 1980
Major	March 1987
Lieutenant Colonel	July 1991
Colonel	November 1997

(Current as of July 1999)



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